

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Military Units on the Border, in Gradovo Okoliya	DATE DISTR.	16 November 1955	
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

1. The 24 Rifle Regiment (Podelenie 320) is located in Gradovo Okoliya, near the Bulgarian-Greek Border. This unit is composed of 300 soldiers, armed with the following infantry weapons, all of Soviet make:

- rifles;
- automatic rifles;
- heavy and light machine guns;
- mortars; and
- anti-armor weapons.

The commander of this unit holds the rank of major.

2. The 30 Artillery Regiment (Podelenie 70-440) is also located in this area. The following is an organizational breakdown for this regiment:

- a. Regimental Staff as follows:

- Regimental Commander - Major Dechev (fnu);
- Deputy Commander of the Political Section - Captain Grosdanov (fnu);
- Chief of Staff - a captain, (name unknown);
- Deputy Supply Commander - a senior lieutenant, (name unknown); and
- Special Services Chief - Lieutenant Vulov (fnu).

There are five junior officers and four civilian clerks who work on the regimental staff

- b. 1 Battalion as follows:

- Company Commander - Senior Lieutenant Kupanov (fnu);
- Deputy Commander of the Political Section - Lieutenant Karabachiev;
- Chief of Staff - Lieutenant Ivanov (fnu);

There are three batteries in this battalion, each consisting of approximately 40 soldiers.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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c. 2 Battalion Commander is a senior lieutenant. This battalion is composed of the 4th, 5th, and 6th batteries, which consists of a total of approximately 20 men, who are assigned to the 4th battery. This battalion does not have a full complement of either officers or men. There is a training battery in this battalion which is responsible for acquainting reserve soldiers, who are called up for two months training, with Soviet artillery weapons.

d. 3 Battalion consists of the 7th, 8th, and 9th Batteries and having altogether 30 soldiers.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions are both below complement as far as personnel is concerned; actually, the regiment has only six complete batteries: three in the 1st Battalion, two in the 2nd Battalion, and one in the 3rd Battalion.

3. The 30 Artillery Regiment has the following weapons:

a. Artillery guns as follows:

- (1) 35 7.62mm ZIS;
- (2) D-42 mobile guns;
- (3) 45 105mm Howitzers, of German make; and
- (4) 10 122mm guns (probably Howitzers), of Soviet make.

Each of the six batteries has four ZIS guns which they use for training. The training program provides for training of the soldiers in the technical servicing of the 105mm Howitzer.

- b. The officers of the regiment are armed with 7.62mm Tul'ska Tukharev Pistols, 7.62mm PPSh automatic pistols, or 7.62mm Vintovka, model 1944, carbines.
- c. Until spring 1953, the mobile artillery was horse-drawn (four horses per carriage for the ZIS guns and six horses per carriage for the 105mm Howitzers). After spring 1953, the regiment was supplied with four Steier (German make) vehicles and two ZIS-5 trucks. When training is conducted, two motor tractors are brought from Burgas to assist, and are returned at the completion of training.

4. There is a tank podelenie which belongs to the Grudovo garrison. This podelenie possesses four German tanks, which are used for training, and 10 Soviet tanks (most likely T-34). The podelenie has 60-70 soldiers and is commanded by a senior lieutenant.

5. These three army units, 24 Rifle Regiment, 30 Artillery Regiment, and the Tank Podelenie, are all housed in the barracks located on the western edge of Grudovo. With these units, is one Soviet colonel who controls the training and advises the officers of the units.

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